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CONTACT: Susan Sullam, 410-962-4436

Aug. 6, 2010

SENATOR CARDIN VISITS GARRETT COUNTY TO ANNOUNCE FUNDING FOR GARRET COLLEGE AND TO VISIT GEARS CAMP

Garrett College's CTTC Has Been Awarded a \$400,000 ARC Grant

ACCIDENT, MD -- **U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin** (D-MD) today visited Garrett County to announce a \$400,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant to design and construct a flexible trades laboratory at the Garrett College Career Technology Training Center (CTTC). The Senator also toured the new center, which is expected to provide training in environmental/energy systems and telecommunications to 500 students over a three-year period.

*"Our nation's future depends on our ability to invest in high-tech education and training that is needed for jobs in the 21st Century," said **Senator Cardin**. "This grant will ensure that Garrett College Career Technical and Training Center has the resources and tools to provide residents of Garrett County with the skills they need for jobs in the 21st Century."*

The Senator also visited the Garrett Engineering and Robotics Society (GEARS), a county-wide robotics club that hosts technology camps for students who are in grades 1-12. GEARS is a non-profit, club-based program and its middle school and high school teams have place in state, national and international competitions. One of their teams was recently invited to participate in a Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) event at the National Academy of Sciences and Engineering in Washington, D.C.

*"The GEARS program is a winner. It provides a stimulating, enriched learning environment that challenges our young people to excel in key subjects that will be important to our nation's future. Jobs of the future will depend on understanding of science, technology, engineering and math and those attending GEARS are having fun while learning important new skills," said **Senator Cardin**.*

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